

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification to incorporate the following replacement paragraphs, with marked up changes, as follows:

Paragraph beginning on page 1, line 6.

A₁ The present invention relates to a printer that operates in response to data and control commands received from a host computer, and relates to a control method for such a printer. More particularly, our invention relates to such a printer and a method for controlling the printer when the printer is off-line.

Paragraph beginning on page 3, line 12.

A₂ To achieve these objects, a control method according to our invention is for a printer having a receive buffer for temporarily storing data including a control command from a host computer, and operating according to the interpreted content of data in the receive buffer. The control method has a step for detecting whether the printer is in an off-line state in which received data is not interpreted, or in an on-line state in which received data is interpreted; and a clearing unit for implementing a step for clearing data in the receive buffer when the printer is detected to be in the off-line state.

Paragraph beginning on page 3, line 33.

A₃ Yet further preferably, the step for setting the off-line data handling method is accomplished according to a specific control command from the host computer. In this case the control bit, or word, setting is stored into memory within the printer according to the control command from the host. Other methods can, of course, be used to set and save the data handling method setting, including DIP switches on the printer itself, or writing the data handling method to fuse ROM or flash memory.

Paragraph beginning on page 4, line 20.

A₄ Yet further preferably, the printer also has a print buffer for storing expanded print data, and the steps for clearing data in the receive buffer, clearing data in the receive buffer and clearing data in the print buffer.

Paragraph beginning on page 4, line 32,

As Our invention also relates to a control method for a host computer for sending data including control commands to a printer operating according to any of the above noted control methods of our invention. This host computer control method has a step for sending print data to the printer in conjunction with a command requesting notification of printing completion; a step for awaiting notification of printing completion from the printer in response to said request command; and a resending unit for implementing a step for resending print data to the printer after receiving an on-line notification from the printer when an off-line notification is received from the printer while awaiting printing completion notification. The resending unit may include a CPU with a program set stored in the ROM ("and a component Q" if needed).

Paragraph beginning on page 6, line 20,

Ac Yet further preferably, the printer has a control means for controlling buffering data received from the host computer so that new received data is not stored to the receive buffer when the printer is off-line and the data clearing mode is set in the storage means. Alternatively in the clearing mode, data can be destroyed by continuing to store and process received data while the printing motor is not driven such that no printing results from the interpreting, i.e. processing, the received data.

Paragraph beginning on page 9, line 1,

A7 Except for real-time commands, which are further described below, printer 15 temporarily stores the sequentially sent and received data to receive buffer 17, which is a FIFO buffer. Data stored ~~to~~ into receive buffer 17 is read in sequence from the first stored data, and any control commands are interpreted by data interpreter 18, which runs in CPU 16. Printer controller 19 controls driving the mechanical parts of the printer according to the interpreted control commands, and thus accomplishes printing and other mechanical operations. If the data interpreted by data interpreter 18 is a print command, CPU 16 expands the print data ~~in from~~ in into receive buffer 17 ~~in into~~ print buffer 20, and drives print head 21 and paper feed mechanism 22 appropriately to print and output the print data ~~in from~~ in into print buffer 20.

Paragraph beginning on page 9, line 16.

A 8 These operation settings can also be stored ~~to~~into an EEPROM (electrically erasable programmable ROM), flash memory or other nonvolatile memory device (not shown in the figures) so that the stored content (settings) are not erased when power to printer 15 ~~power~~ is turned off.

Paragraph beginning on page 9, line 20.

A 9 Printer 15 has an area reserved in RAM 23 for setting the mode that ~~determines~~ing how to handle data received when the printer is off-line. This setting determines whether data already stored ~~to~~in receive buffer 17, data received while the printer is off-line, and data in print buffer 20 is held in memory or is destroyed when printer 15 is off-line. This setting is by default set to hold the data, but by sending an appropriate command, the host 10 can change the setting so that data is destroyed.

Paragraph beginning on page 9, line 26.

A 10 Printer 15 has a real-time command detector and processor 25 implemented in CPU 16 in conjunction with the control method of our invention. Real-time command detector and processor 25 detects whether received data is a real-time command before storing the received data ~~to~~into receive buffer 17. If the received data is detected to be a ~~real~~ real-time command, it immediately runs the process indicated by the real-time command before continuing or running any other process. As further described below, real-time commands are interpreted and run even when the off-line data processing mode is set to destroy data. It should be noted that font data, the various settings data, and a control program run by CPU 16 are stored to ROM 24. It will be obvious that ROM 24 can be plural physically discrete memory elements, or various kinds of rewritable nonvolatile memory such as an EEPROM device.

Paragraph beginning on page 11, line 31.

A 11 Host 10 control relative to printer 15 control is described next. When the off-line printer mode is set to the data destroy mode in the flow chart shown in Fig. 2, all print data sent from the host 10 while the printer 15 is off-line is destroyed, as described above, and will not be printed. Control of the host 10 in this embodiment of the invention addresses this problem by a resending unit for resending print data sent while the printer was off-line after the printer returns on-line. A CPU with a program set stored in the ROM ~~(and a component Q, if needed)~~ may form the resending unit.